

APRIL 2023 MONTH IN REVIEW

Yukon

LAWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Minimum Wage

Apr 1: Yukon raised its minimum wage \$1.07 to a Canada-high \$16.77 per hour. The increase is the result of a 6.8% spike in the 2022 Consumer Price Index for Whitehorse.

Action Point: Find out more about the latest round of [minimum wage increases](#) taking effect across Canada

Immigration

Mar 16: The federal government increased Yukon Nominee Program (YNP) allocations for 2023 from 300 to 430. Last year, the Yukon utilized its full annual allocation of 300 spaces for just the second time since the YNP was established in 2007.

New Laws

Mar 7: Yukon extended its \$150 electrical bill Inflation Relief Rebate for the third time. As before, all non-government commercial and residential electricity customers will automatically get \$50 credits on the ATCO Electric Yukon and Yukon Energy bills regardless of actual usage during the months of March, April and May.

CASES

Health & Safety: Following Industry Standards Is Enough to Comply with Training Requirements

A worker suffered serious knee and spinal injuries when the platform he was working on collapsed sending him plunging 25 feet to the bottom of an elevator shaft. The Crown charged the employer and its owner, the latter as a supervisor, with failing to ensure that the victim received the training and instruction necessary to do the job safely. **Question:** Exactly what training and supervision was required? The *OHS Act* doesn't say. So, the Crown argued that the defendants should have done a full assessment of the victim's skills, competencies and training; the defendants claimed that the training and supervision they did provide was in line with industry standards, noting that the victim had COR certification and tons of experience. The Yukon court found the industry standards argument persuasive and, as a result, ruled that the Crown didn't meet its burden of proving that the defendants committed an OHS violation and dismissed all charges [*Yukon (Director of Occupational Health and Safety) v. Venture Elevator Inc.*, 2022 YKTC 50 (CanLII), December 8, 2022].